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Senate Honors Notable Missourians for Achievements in NASCAR

Jamie McMurray, John Morris Receive Resolutions on Senate Floor

JEFFERSON CITY – Senator Norma Champion, R-Springfield, and Senator Gary Nodler, R-Joplin, presented resolutions on the Senate floor today (Feb. 25) honoring the achievements of two notable Missourians. Senator Champion presented a Senate resolution to Springfield native John Morris, owner of Bass Pro Shops, to recognize him for his achievements in business and as a NASCAR sponsor, while Sen. Nodler presented a resolution to Daytona 500 winner and Joplin native Jamie McMurray for his recent racing achievements.

"John has achieved enormous success in business and his contributions to the Springfield community and the state of Missouri are unmatched," Sen. Champion said. "Behind every great racer is someone who is willing to provide a car to match the racer's skill and ability, and I applaud John for his role in bringing a Daytona 500 win to Missouri."

"America is still a place where dreams come true, and Jamie McMurray's story is no exception," Sen. Nodler said. "He climbed his own way to becoming an elite NASCAR driver, from his days of racing gocarts in Joplin to ascending the highest peak in the racing world by winning the Daytona 500. I'm proud to honor a hometown hero, not just for his accomplishments in racing, but for representing the best of Missouri."

Prior to receiving the resolutions honoring their accomplishments, McMurray and Morris arrived in the #1 Bass Pro Shops/Tracker Boats Chevrolet Impala on the South Lawn of the Capitol this morning. Senator Nodler and Senator Champion joined with Governor Jay Nixon, Lieutenant Governor Peter Kinder, President Pro Tem Charlie Shields, R-St. Joseph, and House Speaker Ron Richard, R-Joplin, in welcoming them to the Capitol.

McMurray drove the race car to victory during the 52^{nd} annual running of NASCAR's most prestigious race, the Daytona 500, on Feb. 14, 2010.